Concern

4
18

Cover Photo

It may not look like Santa, but that beard has 20 crisp dollar bills, a love gift for Ann Holladay from the gang in her MYF at Memorial Methodist Church, Thomasville, N. C. Jimmy Loftin and Harriett Hilton, president and vice president of the MYF, presented the gift.

Ann has been an active leader in the local MYF. She entered Appalachian State College last fall, but before she was really into the term's work, she caught an unusual illness that has confined her to a bed ever since.

The Memorial church MYF wanted to express their appreciation for Ann's radiance and faith, hence the gift.

Forum

MORE TO AVENT

Sir:

In the 19 February issue, I was pleased to see the section dealing with segregation. I was also pleased to read the article on page 3.

Not so with the letter from George Avent. While I agree with him that some pacifists have rather impractical views, I feel that the fault lies with those individuals and not with pacifism itself. My idea of good pacifism is a workable thing. True, much pacifism is weak in that those who profess it do not fully realize or attempt to realize the consequences to the world in the event that all Christians refused to fight.

Pacifism that fails to operate "when the chips are down" is not, I feel, true pacifism, but merely a go-along-with-the-crowd sort of thing. True pacifism is more than nonresistance, although that plays its part. It includes nonresistance, opposition to violence, *and* it actively *works* (through U.N., MCOR, CARE, CROP, etc.) for peace—by binding men together so that war will be impossible.

There are those who contend against pacifism that in the event of a war, for instance, between predominantly Christian forces and communist forces, that it must be God's place to approve the Christian's engaging in war to combat communism. They usually sa that war in the past has sometime served a useful purpose. So it ha Sometimes in history we have occasion of wars that did more good than harm *but* there are circumstances in whic letting the evil have its way for on is a lesser evil than war itself. Sup pose a man tried to start a fight in boat. Wouldn't it be better not to figh and let him have what he wants rathe than fight and overturn the boat? seems to me that the world is in similar situation. Atomic warfare seem quite likely to capsize the world "boa unless something intervenes. It seem to me that the consequences of moder warfare could be even more dreadf in their effect upon Christendom an civilization even than the consequenc of letting evil have its way. In oth words, the evils of war could be great than the evils of surrender.

I feel that pacifism *is* the solutio for the problem of finding a pathwa to peace. Complete and honest pacifis can be. The strictly nonresistant, total passive, almost Milquetoastish sort, course, cannot.

Don Boyd, Te

THE LONG VIEW

Sir:

It seems to me that Mr. Avent's bas assumption that pacifism is impractic is unwarranted. I must admit that times pacifist students seem to reje pragmatic considerations. But a clos examination reveals that such is not t

(*Please turn to page* 15)

Concern

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Concern is published every other week by the National Conference of Methodist Youth, P. O. Box 871, Nashville 2, Tenn. Richard Thompson, president; Jeff Campbell, vice president; Jean Stevenson, recording secretary; Kenneth Thompson, Jr., financial secretary.

The editorial policy of Concern as set by the National Conference of Methodist Youth is the Social Creed of The Methodist Church, adopted by the General Conference and printed in The Discipline.

Entered as second class matter September 12, 1945, at the post office at Nashville, Tennessee, under the Act of March 2, 1879. Subscription price: one year, $1; renewal, $1; foreign, $1.50.

orth saying again

– WITH INDOCHINA IN HEADLINES
RY DAY AND COLUMNISTS ALREADY
DICTING ANOTHER KOREA, IT BECOMES
REMELY IMPORTANT THAT AMERI-
S SEE THE WORLD IN PROSPECTIVE.
E FOLLOWING WORDS COME FROM A
ECH BY WALTER S. ROBERTSON, AS-
ANT SECRETARY FOR FAR EASTERN
AIRS, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Ve are fond of saying in speeches
t we must help in the defense of
edom everywhere because it is in our
-interest to do so, because, so long
freedom is in danger anywhere, our
is not safe. That is quite true.

find it tiresome, however, and un-
thy of us to invoke exclusively our
self-interest. Our responsibilities
not primarily to ourselves but to
past and to the future. Our freedom
bought not at Yorktown and Mid-
alone but on a thousand battlefields
m Thermopylae to the Marne, Lake
oga, and the skies of Britain. Our
cerial possessions go back to Archi-
les, the Arab algebraists, and Gali-
We Americans, unlike the Russians,
not invent everything. Much of the
piration of our art and our religion
tto be found among the ancient
ples of the east.

s we look about us at our heritage
at the magnificent continent we
abit, we must be continually remind-
how much we owe not only to our
n efforts but to other peoples and
providence. This is a debt we can
ay only to the fellow inhabitants of
world and to the future.

or my own part, I feel that no-
ere more than in Asia, where so
ny are struggling against such heavy
s for one-hundredth part of the re-
ds we take for granted, will assist-
e from us be productive of im-
tant returns for all mankind.

mperance board

ts new program

Education, commitment, rehabilita-
n and legislation are the four major
phasis around which the Methodist
ard of Temperance will center its

NEWS

The Choice Has Narrowed Down To . . .

—Knox: Nashville Banner

future work, according to executive secretary Caradine R. Hooton. The four objectives as he stated them:

"*Education* is at the heart of the Board's total effort, for without a broad and comprehensive program of education designed to reach all Methodists, there can be no consistent and effective action for abstinence.

"*Commitment* of individuals to Christ is the primary concern of the church. The Methodist Board of Temperance encourages individuals to commit their lives to sobriety as an essential manifestation of their Christian faith. Commitment to abstinence is a natural and logical outgrowth of commitment to Christ.

"*Rehabilitation* of those who suffer because of beverage alcohol is clearly the obligation of all Christians. In an all-out effort to save and rebuild lives, the board gives help and guidance to Methodism's team of trained counselors who are the thousands of pastors and laymen dealing person-to-person with individuals and families seeking their help.

"*Legislation*, as a natural outgrowth of the concern of informed citizens, is a concrete way in which the march of the liquor traffic upon society can

be halted and reversed. The board stimulates local, state and national legislation to outlaw beverage alcohol in all forms. It encourages drives to arouse sentiment for constructive legislation which will contribute to highway safety, protect home-life, eliminate liquor advertising, and provide an adequate defense for men and women in the armed forces."

The four new objectives grew out of many months of study and conference, including the National Citizenship Convocation and Briefing Confrence held in Washington, D. C. last fall. Since January, the board's staff has been gearing all of the tools of the agency into the program in order to provide specific assistance to all Methodists in a concerted, nation-wide temperance advance.

Churches plan ICU observance

Local congregations across the country will take part in the annual observance of "ICU Week," beginning Sunday, June 13, in recognition of their participation in the support and development of the interdenominational International Christian University in Japan.

During the week churches will be informed of the achievements and program of the new institution. Stanley I. Stuber, general secretary of the ICU Foundation in New York, last month said that "ICU is making remarkable progress, but we do need the constant help of the denominations and local churches. In fact, without this kind of support the university would not be able to carry out its program to train new leaders for the new Japan."

ICU officially opened on April 29 1953 with an entering class of 19 students from China and Korea, as well as Japan.

March 28 the ICU Foundation presented the first of a series of cherry trees to local churches (see picture). More cherry trees are being planted on campuses of American colleges and universities in recognition of their support of ICU. Japanese Cherry trees have now been planted on campuses in 17 states. A tree is given for each gift of $250 for the maintenance, development or endowment of ICU.

Youth invade Sao Clemente

Into the slow-moving town of S. Gabriel came in February the first work camp ever held in Brazil. The small group of Methodist youth who participated in the camp was inexperienced, but eager and bubbling over with enthusiasm and the desire to serve.

Vila Sao Clemente, one of the many tattered outskirts of Sao Gabriel, was just about as bad a small town community as could be found anywhere in Brazil. The streets were little more than bumpy paths and most of the houses were hidden among the tall brush, which also served as toilets. The people in general were poor, filthy, ignorant, sickly and rough. Sao Clemente was an undesirable place in which to live.

The campers took one look at the community and went to work. The girls

First of the Japanese cherry trees to be presented to churches were planted last month in the parsonage yard of the Haddonfield, N. J. Methodist church. The trees are in recognition of church support of the International Christian University in Japan. Holding shovel is Stanley I. Stuber of ICU Foundation in New York.

l with the easy Laubach system, lly began the task of revealing the er of written letters to minds that ever had a chance to learn. The gathered their hammers, saws, pades and went to work building s for those who had previously "gone to the woods." They also d yards and cut away the brush the road so that it is wide and us and clean. Many houses were washed inside and out, and people had never heard of microbes found hat contaminated water can cause us sickness.

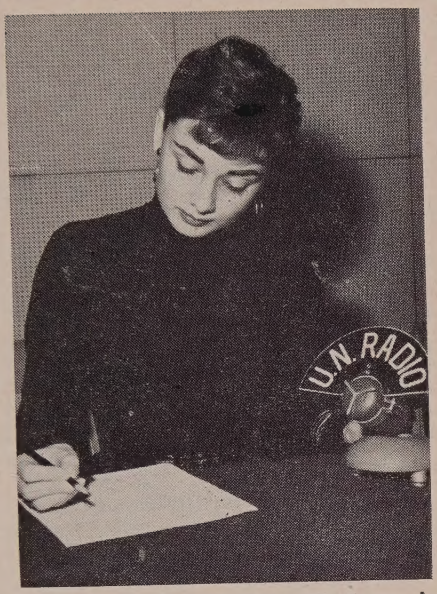
e mother who had four diarrheic ren learned to boil water and was antly surprised when they all im- d overnight. As a result of the h films presented by the traveling h, people who had never been ered by flies began covering their and some requested screening for food cabinets.

e work was hard and demanding, the young people were never too to play and have fun. It had been g time since we had laughed as and as heartily as we did these , for there were almost a dozen to jokes, to tease and laugh. From the day to the end the atmosphere of camp was one of exuberant joy and will. It was wonderful!

o Clemente was impressed with the ngness of high class youth to dedi- two weeks of their vacation to strenuous and unpleasant work. It ard for them to understand that it uch more blessed to give than to ive. They were so impressed that were like a ripened field.

hen the young people visited all homes at the end of the camp, many he homes were ready and eager to the Gospel of love, so cheerfully ticed by the charming young people ing their days of work. At a closing et service 32 people came forward r the appeal made by the pastor, they desired to have in their lives same joy that they saw in the lling faces of their benefactors.

s time approached for the train to ive, and all bags were packed, over over we heard, "When will the t work camp be held? I want to be e to be included. I have never had h an inspiring experience." We hope



Oscar-Winning Audrey Hepburn is one of the outstanding personalities of the theater and film world who have donated their talents to tell the story of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), dramatizing UNICEF's seven-year history of world-wide aid to needy mothers and children.

that soon work camps will become yearly affairs all over Brazil.

One of the boys who came had been a problem at school and church, but he was the hardest worker of all, and he left saying that now he was completely transformed. He now plans to dedicate himself to the ministry. In losing his live to help others he found himself.

—Rev. John N. Betts
Sao Gabriel, Brazil

Bible conferences set

The Methodist Board of Education is planning a nation-wide series of Bible study conferences to be held in cooperation with local churches on a community and district basis. In a year some 200 conferences will be held, most of them beginning in September. General program pattern calls for a three-day meeting featuring evening platform speakers, study groups, question periods, and leadership training sessions for teachers and other church workers.

Challenge in Asia

Strange as it may sound, *religion* was the outstanding force in one of the great lands of Southeastern Asia which I recently visited. That religion is *Buddhism;* the land, *Burma.* Affecting every phase of life, even that of the nation itself, Buddhism is stronger in Burma than in any other country I have ever known. Pagodas and priests are seen everywhere.

One ideology, and only one, is powerful in *all* of the lands visited, from Burma down through Malaya, into Indonesia, and back up through Formosa. That idea is *nationalism.* It is made up of many elements. Love of country is one. There is also a deep pride, partly racial, partly national. Again, suspicion against almost all other countries. Too, there is a burning resentment against colonialism under which each nation has lived until recently.

Nationalism broke out almost daily in my conversations with political leaders, in newspaper articles, in church gatherings, and in private social visits with Asian Christians. We must realize that the Christian world mission must work under strong nationalism, in just about every country in Asia.

There is one other ideology, which is more than ideology. It is a physical force. I refer to *communism.* It is underground in Burma, occasionally erupting in large cities, certainly having infiltrated the insurgent armies. In Indonesia communism is above ground. The government of Red China has been recognized, and communist schools and propagandists are numerous. Across the Strait in Malaya, communism is an armed force as well as an ideology. It is opposed by the government through education, by propaganda by shrewd political moves and by military force. Up in Formosa it is recognized as the ominous cloud across the narrow stretch of sea. True, there is probably less communism among the 9,000,000 Chinese on Formosa than in any other part of Asia; but the power and threat are more clearly recognized there than in any other land—except Korea.

Christianity lives in Southeast Asia in a human climate characterized by these forces. It lives—and it grows. Indeed, the Christian church — the Methodist church included — is meeting some of these challenges head on.

The church answers the communist nationalist challenge:

First, **by direct evangelism.** Malaya is being attacked by commandos, Christian commandos. Teams of Asians and missionaries go into cities for a week or more of intensive evangelism in church, school and home. Up in Formosa, there is mass evangelism, both denominational and united, plus the use of newspaper, printed church propaganda, radio and even street parades. Sumatra and Sarawak concentrate on training preachers and lay members for house-to-house evangelism.

Cartwright

Second, by the greatly increased **activity of Christian women.** Women's Societies of Christian Service are spreading all over the area. They are active there, as in America. Special stress is placed on organized work for Christian home and family life.

Third, through **relief and rehabilitation** in Hong Kong among the hundreds of thousands of refugees from Red China. Some special aid is provided for Methodists among these, but much more is administered without regard to creed. Medical help, plus cheap housing, express the heartfelt concern of American Methodists.

Finally, there are rural projects combining wholesome evangelism with the

of aid offered by the United Na- Technical Assistance program. New Villages of Malaya are rural ers each with thousands of jungle- squatters moved to better sites. volunteer workers, plus some ed and paid Christian Chinese ght from Hong Kong, are offering ation, recreation, public health ing, evangelism and worship. Ma- Methodists assumed responsibility 10 villages. The work is done large- y the Methodist Youth Fellowship. Sarawak, a public health team of ese and missionaries works in co- ation with government in a wide and neglected area. In Sarawak, too, agricultural projects have high place. One, guided by a Methodist missionary, is in connection with the schools. The other is a pioneer task among the jungle-dwelling Ibans where a Methodist Negro couple are serving in isolation—yet with joy.

Evangelism, women's work, relief work and rural Christian service — there you have a picture of our Methodist answer to the communist challenge in Southeast Asia.

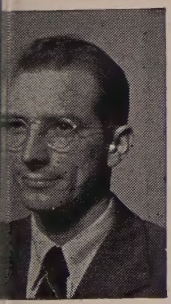
—BY FRANK T. CARTWRIGHT,
Administrative Secretary, Board of Missions

inking out the news

Will history repeat itself?

oodrow Wilson was elected in 1916 ause he had "kept us out of war." Wilson eventually "got us into ," because he drew a firm line and l to Germany, "across that line thou lt not step." When the Germans did ep," Wilson was caught. He couldn't k down.

DR was more politically sophisti- ed. Yet, he somehow created the impression just as Wilson did that he would "keep us out of war." Nevertheless, he launched lend-lease, and from that point on, the United States was really in World War II.



Nelson

Now, the Republican administration has come to power at least partly be- use of "Harry Truman's war" in rea. One of the most important rea- ns Ike was elected was his pledge visit Korea and see what he could to stop the war. And, of course, he parently has stopped it.

The implication has been that this untry is "against" Koreas.

But now, what looms on the horizon? dochina. And what is the present point of view on Indochina? — that, "Korea" or no Korea, the Communist armies there must be defeated. Everyone knows about the efforts to form a ten-nation regional alliance, and Drew Pearson (in his column of April 14) would have it that our government wanted permission for quick and direct action with the president, not Congress, determining the nature of that action.

Wilson, FDR, Ike—always it boils down to the same thing . . . namely: things look different to the politician seeking office than they do to the statesman charged with responsibility for protecting U. S. "interests." Power politics is a grim game. The people must be babied. Why? Because they always want to have their cake and eat it, too.

Concern Feature

What did the people of the U. S. want in World Wars I and II? To see Germany defeated, *and* to "keep out of war." What do they want now? Communist military agression halted — *and* "no more Koreas." The end of colonialism — and the friendship of "anti-communist" governments including colonial powers. Wealth and security for United States citizens — in a world which can be saved only by dedication and sacrifice.

—BY CLAUD NELSON, JR.

Majoring in the minors

"You may think you've mastered the curriculum," remarks Bishop William C. Martin, "but you'll have only the time or energy left for minoring in the majors." Dr. Halford Luccock speaks of "minimum lives in a time of maximum demands." In that quick glimpse we get of the H-bomb pictures before sheer reflex action jerks our nervous eyes away in trembling terror — "maximum demands," we agree. Is man *man* enough to control the forces in himself that caused him to develop such instruments of destruction in the first place? (Only a mere 100% liability for getting out of hand — *Christian Century*). There may be but a minimum of time — how live more than minimum lives?

Concern Feature

For *Time* (April 19, 1954) to offer a much longer department of religion is news. It lays "holy challenge" squarely upon the churches "to lift high that great light in man's darkness." "History, poised between Ivy and Jughead, between the 38th parallel and Dienbienphu, has enforced a Lenten mood upon the nations with the sackcloth of political conflict and showers of radioactive ash." It even suggests that "chocolate bunnies, dizzy eggs and pretty bonnets of Easter" may be incongrous with man's real needs now. Isaac Watts' old hymn may again become appropriate, "My thoughts on awful subjects roll . . ."

By rare coincidence (it happens not often in a century) the holiday this year had dual significance: the Jewish Passover and the Christian Easter. Startlingly fitting that, in the wake of the world's most fearful explosion, people of the three great faiths should turn simultaneously to celebrate and speak of the things of the spirit. Could it be that somehow in these quiet ceremonies in home, synagogue and church, people have hold of . . . a power even mightier than that let loose in the Pacific? Do they really *believe* that? Does America really *believe* the motto it puts on its silver dollars?

A wistful will-to-believe is abroad. Bestseller lists are crowded month after month with books on religious themes. Post-holiday radio and TV voluntarily took up the suggestion "Let's take Passover and Easter crowds to synagogues and churches all year."

Miss Bowman

Tables in hotels and restaurants have little cards with printed graces of various faiths. (While we're on that, many youth are ordering multiple copies of Powell — for foreign friends, for armed services, and leave as "tips" when eating out). Over mass communications, in alarm-clock club hours and such, there will be a pause for prayer. *Time* remarks further that seminaries are "crowded with the kind of young men the secular world competes for."

Yes, there's religious reaching. But many scarce knowing for what they're reaching—will they know where they have laid Him." People will likely turn to imitations or commercializations of the real thing. In MSM and MY groups in the weeks ahead, we'll be tempted to maximize activities — all good, sure. But we'd better maximize first, "our faith tremendous:" *think* clearly, *read* stretchingly, *pray* daringly . . . until (as Pitney Van Dusen urges before the Evanston meeting of the World Council of Churches) "we can give *convinced* and *convincing* account of the faith that is in us."

Second, the inescapable challenge is the *living* of such a faith—leaving behind the misty flats of vapid, foggy ordinariness, taking stands, being counted, making our local fellowships *fellowships* of "robust love," as Whit

aid, "new cities of friends in-
e to the attacks of the whole rest
earth." Only *then* might Chris-
outh, maybe Christians every-
rise to ask: should not there be
provided, maybe with new gov-
ntal machinery created (as Ger-
ard suggests) whereby the rep-
atives of *religious* groups as such
share in the deciding about the
ven the testing, of the frightful
s of the physical universe?

—BY CLARICE BOWMAN

ooks of Concern

Change of Heart

of the fascinating stories of the
not only entertains, but gives
needed insight into the thought
fe of young India today. Harold
rensperger, well known in Metho-
circles as the first editor of
, has written this keen novel
the social revolution going on in
but particularly how it affects
8-year-old Christian Indian and
other youth he knows.
nge of Heart is one of the study
prepared for the 1954-55 mis-
y themes, which are India, Pak-
and Ceylon. Cost is $2.00 in cloth
ng and $1.25 in paper.
er study books on the theme in-
a quick reference book about the
s and Christian church in the
countries, a book of poems by a
Indian Christian, and a youth
with ideas for study and pro-
s. A free leaflet describing all
missionary study materials is
able free from the Youth Depart-
P. O. Box 871, Nashville 2.

hristian Teaching in the Churches

e of the most experienced leaders
e field of Christian education is
Q. Schisler, executive secretary
e Division of the local Church of
odism's General Board of Educa-
In this new book, just published
$2.50 by Abingdon Press, Dr.
sler answers key questions about
stian teaching, its responsibilities
opportunities, and how to do the
in a local church. Of special in-
t to CONCERN readers is the chap-
ter on leaders of youth, but the entire book is good and important reading. It is a comprehensive picture of religious education today.

Heroes of God series

In an effort to overcome "religious illiteracy among boys and girls of this country," the first teenage series of book-length biographies of great religious leaders was published last month. Inaugurating the new "Heroes of God" series of books are *Jeremiah, Prophet of Disaster; Paul, the World's First Missionary;* and *Queen Esther, Star in Judea's Crown.*

Other volumes will present the life stories of Old and New Testament figures, Reformation leaders and modern missionaries, including the stories of Peter, David, the Whitmans, Joshua, Tyndale, Wyclif and others. Publisher of the series is Association Press. The books emphasize adventure and colorful narrative, and are checked for accuracy by Biblical scholars, religious historians and educators.

The colorful and inspiring books sell for $2 each, and CONCERN heartily recommends them as good and interesting reading for teen-agers.

It takes all kinds - -

GREEDY GUS hovers over the punch bowl and cake. Has more than he can ever eat, but refuses to share. Only thing "big" about him is his waist-line!

Registrations due for alcohol school

Registration for the 1954 Youth School of Alcohol Studies and Christian Action are now being accepted.

The second of its kind to be held, the national school will bring together nearly 100 key Methodist young people and their adult leaders for a five-day study of the alcohol problem. Host campus this summer will be Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio. Dates are June 28-July 2.

The school includes demonstrations, panel discussions, project activity, and basic lectures giving up-to-the-minute scientific information about alcohol and its effects on the human body and personality, plus a theological and methodological approach to the problem.

Conference MYF chairmen of Christian Citizenship or an approved alternate, and the conference adult advisor to the program area on Christian citizenship or the conference director of youth work are eligible to attend. This means at least one youth and one adult from each annual conference. If a conference can send only one person, then a youth gets priority. All registrations must be cleared through the office of the conference director of youth work and sent to the Youth Department of the General Board of Education, P. O. Box 871, Nashville 2.

Cost to the delegates is $15.00 for five days room and board, plus travel to and from Ohio Wesleyan.

New TV shows aimed at youth

Every Sunday for nine weeks, beginning May 2, the CBS television network will carry a show aimed at unchurched youth, 15-23 years old. It is the "Look Up and Live" series, already carried as a regular feature by many television stations. Broadcasts are scheduled for 10:30 to 11:00 a.m., Eastern daylight time.

Speaker every week is Charles Templeton, evangelist for the National Council of Churches. The Townsmen quartet, heard recently on ABC's Paul Whiteman show, will be on each week.

CUES

A different youth choir will appe each week. Outstanding sports perso alities will be used on occasion duri the series, depending on their ava ability. Robin Roberts of the Philli Carl Erskine and Jackie Robinson the Dodgers have been signed for a pearances, although the dates have been set.

Guest soloists will be Mary Ma Capitol recording star and recen signed by RKO pictures, and Be Cox, star of the Conrad Nagel sh on the Dumont network.

At the end of each program will a "cut-in" for announcements by l stations: "If any of you viewing t show are interested in knowing wh there is a real live young people's gr near you, call or write . . ." A l Christian Youth Council TV commit will provide a phone number and mail address to which queries may directed.

The project is directed nationally the United Christian Youth Movem

Church seeks script writers

If any youth or adults in your ch are interested in writing movie scr here is a real opportunity for the and a crack at earning $500.

The Central Office of Promotion been authorized to produce a new on World Service of The Meth Church. The Methodist Radio and Commission is looking for the script, and hopes it may discove the church the person or persons are competent to write a good scrip the film.

The film will be educational wi dramatic treatment, made primarily Methodists and their friends. It seek to interpret the Christian mot tion for World Service and inspire audience to participate more sacrific ly in its work.

Writers interested in the project n submit a story treatment about 2,

in length. The treatment should written in the form of a motion script but should be in the form short story—simple, direct and without involving undue travel ign lands. Stories must be sub- by June 30 to the Radio and Commission, Box 868, Nashville, attention Harry C. Spencer. The and Film Commission will pay or each story accepted.

to think about
h Activities Week

mer or early fall is the time more and more local MYFs are Youth Activities Week obser- YAW is a caravan week with- aravan, an institute, camp or as- at home. It is a week set aside MYF for daytime projects and ening meetings with discussions, p and fellowship.

llance for local groups comes in ay issue of *Roundtable*. Local s which do not receive *Roundtable* rly or those that need an addi- copy may order one from the Department, P. O. Box 871, ille 2.

special event for intermediates eir adult friends is Christian Ad- e Week. It includes worship, and discussion, recreation, and e to others in the church and unity, which the intermediates elves have a part in planning.

me for this year's Christian Ad- re Week is "Christian Beliefs," unit planned around the theme ilable from the Methodist Pub- g House. A packet of materials lanning is available from the h Department.

ors should
nt carefully

t only do sheep need to be fed, ey need to be counted. (And this not mean counting them in order lulled to sleep.) For sometimes ss of one sheep makes a big dif- ce in many ways.

is is also true of the youth in odist church schools. Youth need counted and the total entered in ight place, namely column 16 of table 1 of the pastor's report to annual conference.

This spring the Youth Department is urging pastors to count their youth. It may be that some of the 23,000 youth lost from the church schools since 1948 are in the class of those fed but not counted.

Every youth who is a part of the program of the church should be counted: all those 12-23 who participate in Sunday school, Sunday evening fellowships, choirs, during-the-week activities such as hobby and interest groups, youth serving agencies (if under the supervision of the commission on education), home members, youth in the armed services or in school away from home.

What is your church doing about counting its youth?

Church publishes missionary map

A new map on the world mission of The Methodist Church has just been produced by the Board of Missions and Rand McNally.

The large wall map is four feet by six feet, colorful, authentic and complete. Centers of Methodist missionary activity at home and abroad are marked and named. Six insets show in charts, tables and graphs the distribution of missionaries of The Methodist Church, the growth of membership at home and overseas, the relative strength of the great world religions, and the estimated world constituency of the main branches of Christianity. Five smaller world maps show the spread of Christianity in 500, 1500, 1800, 1914, and 1953.

The map is printed on quality paper in beautiful colors and is worth far more than the price of $1. It adds class to any group's meeting room. The map comes folded in a heavy manila envelope. For $2 it may be obtained unfolded in a mailing tube from the Editorial Department, 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11. For regular folded copies send a dollar to Literature Circulation Office, 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11, the Literature Headquarters of the WSCS, or the nearest branch of the Methodist Publishing House.

Vocations emphasis carried to districts

For several years annual conference MYFs have held vocations conferences and career clinics on a conference basis, and frequently a subdistrict or district has worked on a vocations project.

From the North Mississippi Conference comes a real effort to push vocations across the conference. No more will they have a conference vocations clinic; instead, a vocations clinic in in every district. This way they reach many times as more youth as they did with one big clinic.

Mrs. Sam Ashmore reported from one of the district meetings, held in Aberdeen, Miss., that they reached in one day three times as many youth as attended the annual meeting on a conference level. Some 70 youth attended the interest group on missions, and one fellow said, "I have gone to church all my life but this meeting meant more to me than any I ever attended."

Perhaps this is the new pattern for the church.

Seymour, Texas is active center

Sometimes things in Seymour, Texas were like things everywhere else — a little slow. For years the MYF council talked about a Watchnight party, but somehow the plans never got carried out, or else something happened to stop the project.

Lately things have been differen'. MYF president Don Hamilton got concerned about this Watchnight idea, and this year they carried through in the first Watchnight party and service ever held for the group. January programs on the Christian and war prompted such discussions in the MYF that they wrote letters to President Eisenhower and their senators reporting how they feel about peace efforts.

The local group has cooperated in several projects of the J. O. Y. subdistrict, including its first Christian witness mission and an overseas relief clothing drive. A Meals for Millions drive netted over $40.

MYF in action

Virginia Riggs

MYFer is queen of sweet sixteen

Virginia Riggs, 16-year-old se at Edwardsville, Ill. high school chosen queen of the Illinois "S Sixteen." The sixteen are the school basketball teams who compe the state tournament each year. I contest to name the queen who re over the tournament and its festiv Virginia was the judges choice. E for selection: beauty, personality talent.

Ginny is an officer of the subdis MYF and an active member of John's church and MYF in Edw ville. She has been president of local MYF and sings in the youth c Her pastor reports that she is reg in attendance at worship and wa her place Sunday after the tournan even though she got home at 4:00

She is also very active in sch nd was homecoming queen last According to pastor Clyde Funkho Ginny is an "earnest Christian, poss ing a gracious and winning persona and a cooperative, helpful spirit have won her many friends."

YF Roundup

esults of the Youth Emphasis evident in the Central Pennsyl- Conference April 2-3 when 420 and adult leaders met at York ual convention. Attendance was gest ever. Speaker was James , pastor of St. Matthew's church ladelphia and district youth di- in Philadelphia West District. was "I Believe—For Youth a ian Faith." John Piper, senior at nsport high school, was elected ent.

Members of the senior hi depart- of First church, Jonesboro, Ark., d blue jeans and carried paint s during the month of March to e their senior hi assembly room youth chapel. Boys painted and made drapes for the windows, draped one wall for a worship g. A big box supper for the n brought in money to put up on the four highways into town elcome to Jonesboro, Methodist Fellowship, First Methodist h."

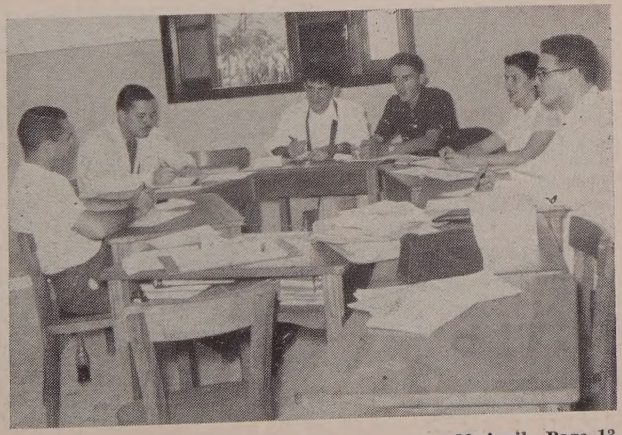
March 27 a week-end witness mis- in Joplin, Mo., brought together uth and adult leaders. Eight teams d in morning and afternoon, con- d 36 interviews, got 18 first com- nts and two transfers. One team eight interviews and won seven commitments. Visits were con- d in Joplin, Webb City, Carl ion and Alba.

Big Rapids District MYF held a -end witness mission at Alma and Ithaca, Mich., March 26-28 with 20 youth and counselors attending. Ray Norton, who has led the two previous conference missions, was resource person.

◆ MYFs of the Cleburne District, Texas, joined forces to raise $620 for the work of Arthur Peterson at the Rural Institute of Evangelism at Itapina Brazil. Some of the youth talked with Peterson when he was in the U.S. on furlough, asked how they might help. He suggested a need for movie equipment, and so the youth got to work. A talent show, church festival, bake sales, chile suppers and such resulted in the fund, turned in at the March meeting.

◆ Methodist youth from Washington and northern Idaho joined in the UCYM conference for the area held last month at Wenatchee. Theme of "Our Father —Our World" was carried out by a panel of five speakers from India, Venezuela, Russia, Malaya and England, who gave thought-provoking opinions of America and explained their own national problems.

◆ Puget Sound, Wash., District had the area bishop, A. Raymond Grant, speak at a rally of 300 youth. The all-day affair began with an hour's ferry ride from Seattle across the Sound to Bremerton. Rally registration was done on the ferry. Special evening feature was an upper-room communion dinner, in which youth ate in complete silence and by candle-light the kind of foods that Christ and the disciples ate in the first upper room meal. After the singing of a hymn, they went out and home.



ncil of the Cuba erence MYF meets o-day session. Of- are publicity di- r Danilo Dannery, dent Jose Fernan- secretary Heradio uez, vice president s Nieto, director a Feijoo, and urer Adalio Fra-

Nalional College has special guests

Methodism's National College for Christian Workers in Kansas City is stretching its fellowship across the seas. This spring, Methodist youth leaders in Britain are selecting a student to come to National College for a year's study as guest of the college.

This year National College entertained as its special guest Sigrid Spruth of Germany. According to president Lewis B. Carpenter, she has made a real contribution to the life of the college. She has helped other students understand the feelings and attitudes of German youth and students after the end of war. "Many lives seemed to have lost all orientation. Hopes and dreams were shattered, but worse, faith in people, too, when the younger generation came to realize the dreadful harvest of Hitler's seed." Yet she says that during those hard, long years she learned the greatest lesson of her life: "that nothing is unbearable when we have faith that there is a purpose in life, however hidden it may seem at times."

Miss Spruth

Sigrid Spruth is preparing for a career in social service. "I am strongly aware of the need for better understanding of all peoples and races who are our brothers in God's world, and I hope to work towards bringing peoples and nations closer together—wherever I might find my place to work, your country or in mine."

A year at National College brought people and nations closer together, and the college knows having its guest has been a worthwhile project.

MSM in action

MSM Roundup

◆ Fifteen students from Ball S Wesley Foundation, Muncie, Ind., s their six spring vacation days i Christian witness mission in ei churches of the Methodist mission ish in Nashville. The group condu religious surveys, did spot calling visited homes of prospective ch members during Holy Week, and a their work toured Methodist h quarters.

◆ Kansas State MSM met March 28 at Hays Wesley Foundation 150 present and Gerald McCulloh sp ing. Bill Preston of Southwester new state president.

◆ Iowa MSM noted a $500 incr in MSFF giving at its state confer April 2-4 at a camp near Cedar Ra University of Iowa professor R Michaelsen was speaker, and Go Johnson of Iowa was elected presi

◆ Texas Western College at El held a religious emphasis week M 15-18 with three assemblies addr by a rabbi, the vice president of and a priest. Theme: "A Faith Live By."

Last issue CONCERN slipped in reporting on the new prexy of the Louisiana MSM. Here is the straight scoop: secretary Mary Law, state director Lillian Hay, publicity chairman Carol Ann Hoffpauir, vice president Henry Hess, president Henry Johnson of LSU, and treasurer David Batt.

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(Continued from page 2)

hese students have learned well. professors have urged that the nge view be taken with regard implications of solutions to im- e problems. Tillich asks us to it and above history into eternd we have done just that: one ultimate values of this universe to be human personality.

s lived effectively on earth be- en finally elevated him to social nce at the right hand of God. fact indicates to me that his l of dealing with individuals is practical one—and Jesus lived the dictatorial rule of Rome and xecuted by it.

light in the field of inter- al politics has come from the in- ations of the Friends and their at Quaker House with U.N. dele- It seems that policies are made n terms of individuals instead of s, as we had so long thought. tly, when delegates feel that an work together, the result is ations feel so, too. This would o give us some insight into the of politics and also suggest that os Jesus' dealing with individuals place in international peace- g.

seems to me that pacifists are of the strongest supporters of urch and governmental agencies by Mr. Avent. But, from a psyical point of view, it appears peaking softly while carrying a ick breeds suspicion rather than The Christian's responsibility is end a helping hand uncondition- The Good Samaritan did not expromise of safety for himself be- reating the injured man.

s my own feeling that the only of the world, humanly speaking, Christians outside of and behind on Curtain to commit themselves long range view and to the ethic e Jesus who was executed in the century equivalent of the gas per because he preached an impractical but somehow dangerous reform of human living.

J. Joseph Pia, Calif.

FROM AVENT AGAIN

Sir:

Two men were walking in a field. Suddenly they came upon a bear. The bear began to chase the two men. As the men ran they came upon a chasm. One man said, "I believe I can jump across." The other man said, "I'm afraid I could not, I'll stop and try to tame the bear."

The bear ate up the one man. The other, because he believed he could, jumped the chasm to safety.

A thing that has disturbed and puzzled me is that it is not the pacifists among us who have the faith that we can avoid atomic destruction. And I believe that faith that we can avoid atomic war is needed to save us from despair and the desperation to which despair can drive us.

To be sure, fear of destruction is not enough to assure peace, but it has kept us from dropping atom bombs while we have insulted each other to a degree which in other days would have led to full scale conflict.

We have an opportunity and a compulsion to abolish the causes of war, which we will exploit only if we have faith that peace is a possibility. Faith is a necessary ingredient to any possible avoidance of such destruction. America has chosen to ignore the pacifist "solution," and pacifists are forced to believe that the strategy of strength we have chosen must inevitably lead us to all out conflict.

I am a non-pacifist, but for more than four years I have been possessed of a great faith that we are at a most important moment in history. For the first time any would-be world conqueror is shorn of a reasonable basis for belief that he could conquer the free world. Because I believe this I can help generate that faith in the possibility of peace which will be one ingredient of any peace we realize. It is ironic that the pacifists among us are among those who are creating the black mood of despair.

George Avent, Tex.

1. If you are moving or leaving school for the summer, please let us know. We will change your address.

2. We must have your old address as well as the new address, or we cannot find you in our files—which are kept by state and city.

3. Please renew your subscrip promptly. The numbers on y address label are the key to your expiration date. "5-54" means May, 1954—you shou have renewed by now.